

TWIN OAKS MEMORIES



*Twin Oaks School
San Marcos, California*

by

Edith Bagwell H

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TWIN OAKS MEMORIES

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PROLOGUE

From the cotton fields of Yuma, to the orange groves of Twin Oaks Valley, the Bagwells were looking for paradise.

The summers of Yuma, where my Dad raised cotton, were scorchers. We did not have electricity, so we did not have the luxury of even a fan. I can remember my mother putting wet sheets over us at night so that we could sleep.

Dad had struck up a friendship with Brad Padgett whose daughter, Mabel Trivett, lived in Twin Oaks Valley. He kept talking about what a wonderful place the Valley was and talked my Dad into coming with him to look it over. Dad came home very excited about moving there. He had found a job at Froot Smith's chicken ranch and a house to rent across the street.

In January, 1934, Lucious and Annie Bagwell packed their Model A Sedan, loaded me and my little brother, Travis, and headed west to California. It seemed like a very long trip across the desert on the wooden road. My older sister, Nellie, with her husband, John Newman, and two small children, Vernon and Wilma, soon followed.

We were enthralled with our new home-- a two story home with electricity! We thought we were in heaven. Our excitement didn't last very long though. It began to rain and it rained and rained for weeks. We couldn't get to school at times due to the flooded roads. My mother came down with pneumonia and almost died. We couldn't afford to take her to the hospital and many of our new neighbors helped out as someone had to be with her around the clock. The San Marcos Fire Department helped save her life by making a fast trip to Oceanside to pick up oxygen tanks for her.

After the rain stopped and mother survived pneumonia, we began to enjoy California. Our new home had lots of fruit trees, we bought a cow, put in a garden, raised chickens and rabbits and finally felt we were in paradise.

We had a very happy life growing up in Twin Oaks Valley. We children were free to ride horseback about the Valley, ride our bicycles on the roads and hike into the hills. We felt very safe and didn't have to watch out for anything, except rattlesnakes and poison oak. (I can remember riding down a hill on my bicycle, hitting a rock and landing in a patch of poison oak.) We were like one big family in the Valley, everyone looked out for everybody else.

We had a wonderful school, great teachers, we took music lessons, we had field trips to San Diego, kite contests with neighboring schools, softball tournaments, 4-H Club where we girls learned to sew and I won ribbons on my sewing at the County Fair in Del Mar. I learned to milk a cow, churn butter, and all the things farm girls do. We even held Sunday School at the Schoolhouse on Sundays as well as Vacation Bible School.

Dad changed jobs after awhile and went to work caring for the orange groves owned by B. A. Sweet. We moved around the corner to a house in the orange grove. One of my fondest memories is going with my friends into the grove and sitting down and peeling and eating oranges by the dozen. How good they tasted! When I married and moved to Kansas I couldn't stand to eat oranges from the store. They just didn't taste like the oranges I ate in Twin Oaks.

I will never forget my childhood in Twin Oaks Valley. I feel my children missed so much growing up in the City and will never have all the wonderful memories I have.

Thanks to Dad and Mom for the memories of growing up in Twin Oaks Valley.

Edith Bagwell Hughes

VALLEY APTLY NAMED TWIN OAKS

U. S. Army Major Gustavus Merriam was the first to homestead in North Twin Oaks Valley, named by him for the large twin oak trees on his property.

No one knows for sure, but the trees were believed to be already four centuries old when Major Merriam brought his family from Topeka, Kansas to settle on 160 acres tucked in the unnamed valley. The Major built his five-room house alongside the two sprawling oaks.

Merriam's brother, Clinton and his wife, followed the Major to Twin Oaks Valley in 1889 with their daughter, Florence. Like her father, Florence Merriam became a skilled ornithologist and published books on bird-watching. She spent the spring and summer months under the old oaks teaching visiting east coast college students about Southern California bird life.

Major Merriam later built a house next to the oaks for his daughter, Virginia Jordan. Under its branches she taught school to the children of the early residents. Virginia Jordan lived next to the oaks until she was in her nineties. She hired workers to prop up the trees' sprawling limbs two years before her death in 1971.

The mighty oaks were a sight to behold and appeared to be one oak growing from the ground in two spots, forming a living canopy of branches that enveloped the yard outside the Jordan house. The first of the two mighty oaks died of drought sometime in 1990. A community effort was launched by the San Marcos Historical Society to save the remaining oak but despite the community efforts, it succumbed in 1994.

*Source: From articles published in the
Escondido Times Advocate*



Courtesy of the San Marcos Historical Society

The Merriam family and ornithology students often gathered beneath the twin oaks in early 1880s.

TWIN OAKS SCHOOL SONG

Working together, playing together

At the dear old Twin Oaks School

School bells are ringing

Each one is singing

For we love the Twin Oaks School

Everyone is gay and happy,

Recitation bright and snappy,

Eucalyptus trees

Swaying in the breeze

And the sturdy oak

With its shining leaves.

To our school mates dear,

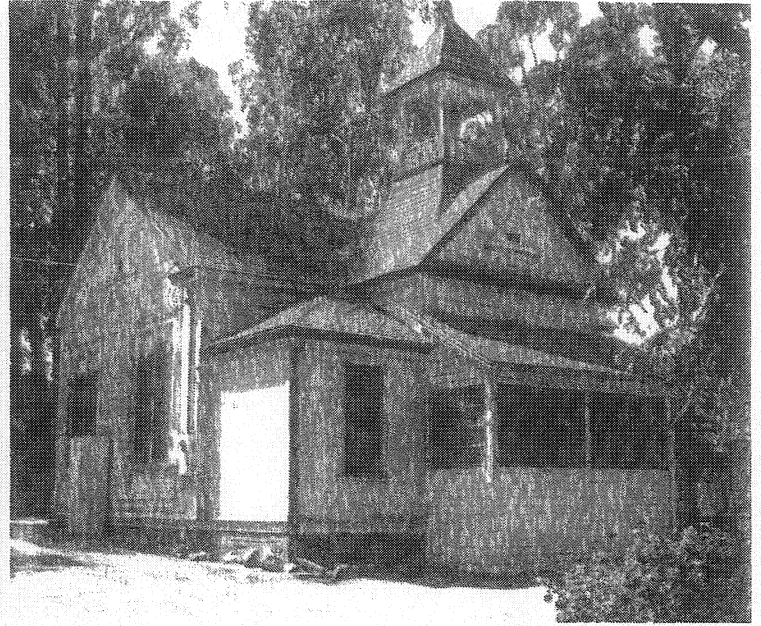
Sounding sweet and clear.

Hear the school bells ring

Twin Oaks School

by Edith Bagwell

TWIN OAKS SCHOOL - THEN AND NOW



The Twin Oaks School Building on Deer Springs Road was not the first school building in Twin Oaks. Early Homesteaders in 1881 built a small school for their children one-half mile southwest of what is now Pechstein Dam, and on the property of Thomas Isbell. The small school cost \$589.91. Mary E. Pieters was the first teacher in the little school with opening classes on February 3, 1890. She was followed by Maggie O'Connel in August, 1890 and in March, 1891 Gertrude M. Smith took over.

In 1890, the Twin Oaks School District bought a lot on Deer Springs Road from the San Marcos Land Company for the sum of \$50.00. Onto this lot they promptly moved the little school. In 1891 they borrowed money to build a better and much larger school for their children at a cost of \$1,400.

The big, beautiful school with the bell tower was finished in time for the opening of school on August 31, 1891. The main room was all of 20' x 35'. In the front there was a cloakroom for boys and one for girls. Out back there was a privy for boys and one for girls. Water had to be hauled to the school.

Eighteen eager students trooped up the front steps of the new school on opening day to find the teacher, S. J. Littlefield, welcoming them. There were five boys and thirteen girls. All shared a water bucket and a community dipper. The school census showed children of Gustavus Merriam, Jacob Uhland, William Thompson, F. P. Jones, John V. Harrison, Peter Cochems, Omar Ritchie, Mrs. Isabel Owens, George Oden, Silas Pryear and E. L. Richards made up the student body. On March 14, 1892 S. J. Littlefield's salary was \$65.00 a month and he had twenty pupils at that time.

On September 2, 1895 Maude Hardy was hired as teacher and was followed on February 24, 1896 by Clara Robertson. Each received a salary of \$50.00 a month. In September 28, 1902, Emma Louise Balch was teacher at \$60.00 a month.

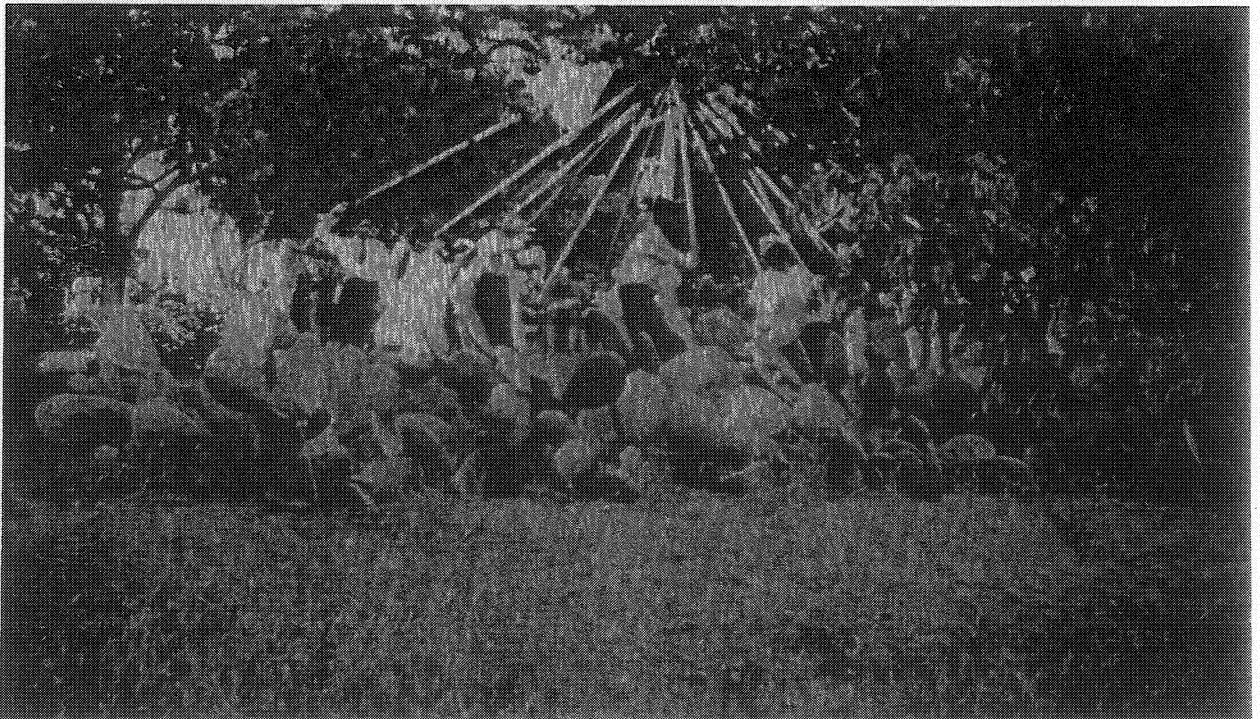
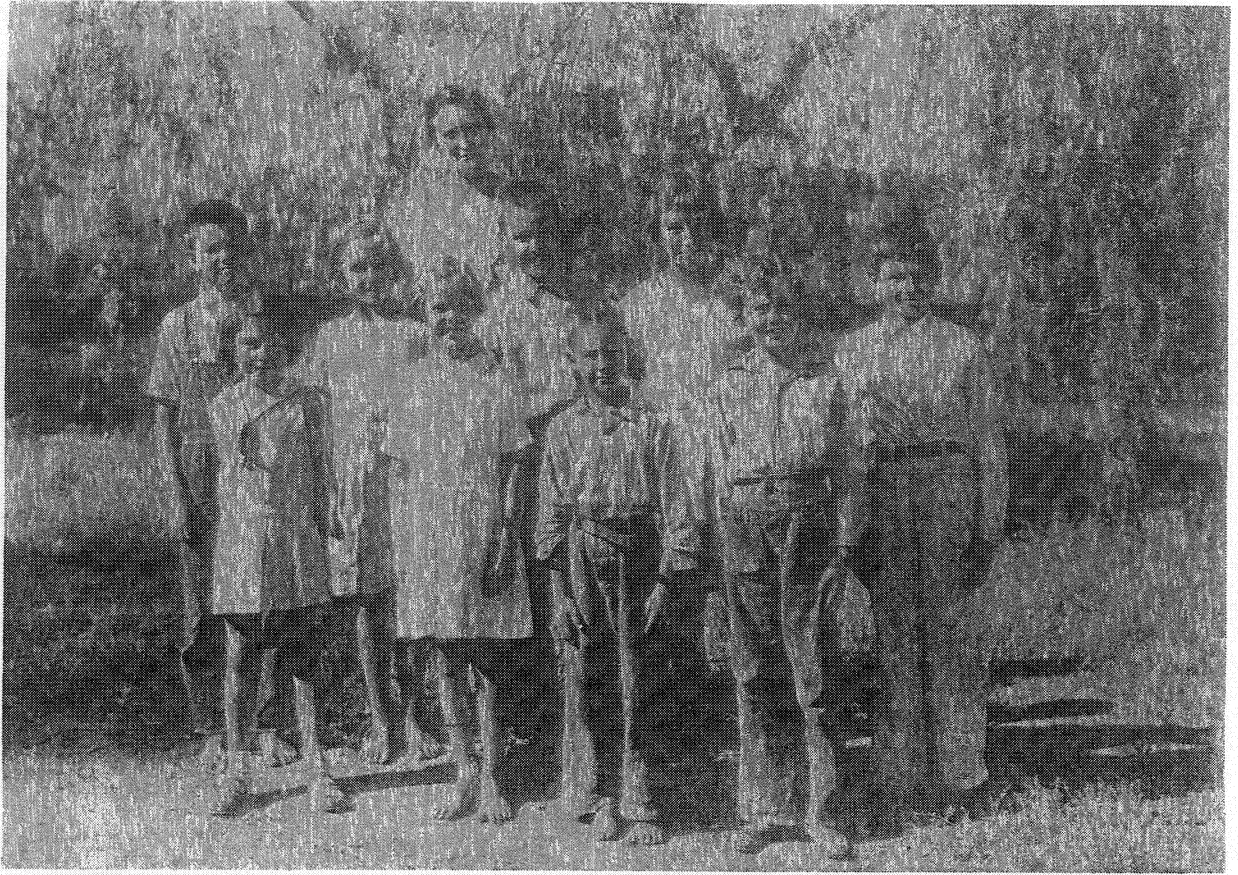
By June, 1893 the names of Enos M. Loon, J. M. Hyne, J. B. McKean, John Hart and Littlefield himself, had been added to the list of parents of school-age children. By the June, 1897 census, some of the parents' names had been dropped and those of A. Frohburg, J. M. Hambaugh, Z. Olson, O. Ruhey, E. L. Rambo and J. S. Thompson added. The names of R. S. Cox and W. W. Merriam appear four years later.

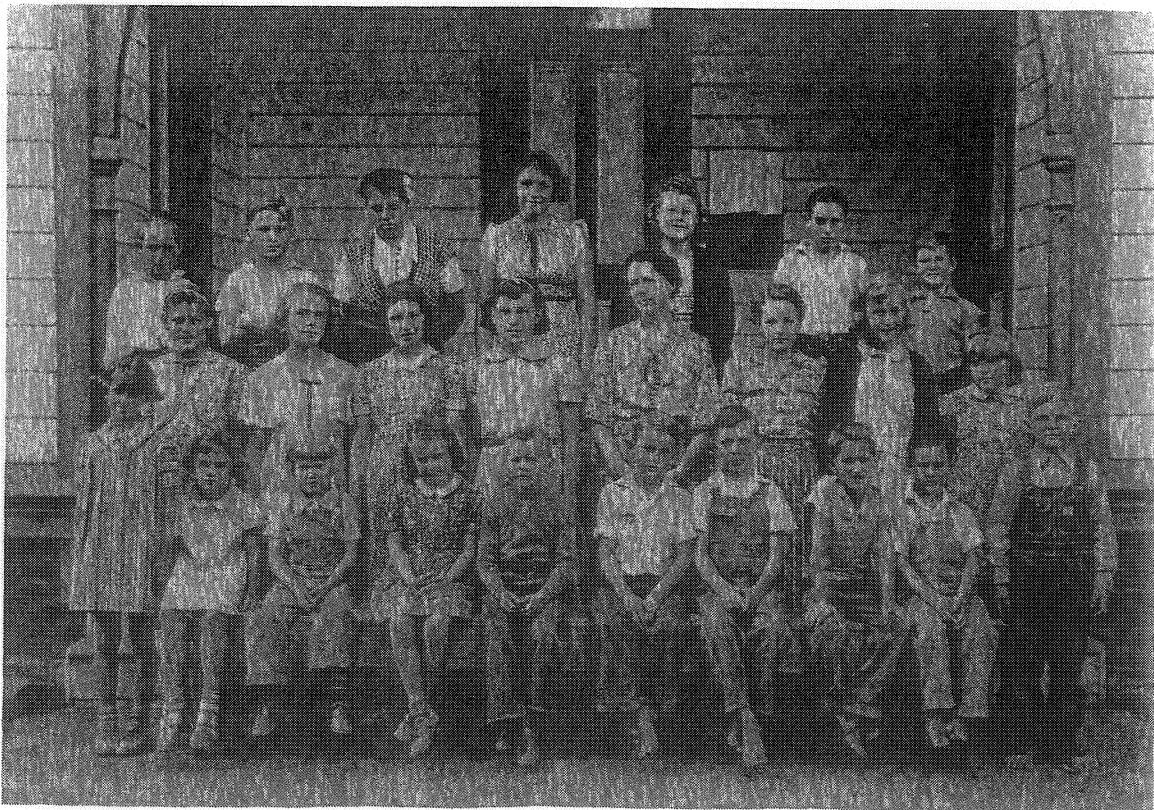
All went well for the school on Deer Springs Road for 48 years. In the Fall of 1939, the children of the valley went to their school under the auspices of the Escondido Union Elementary District. World War II came along, making teachers very hard to get. School opened in the Fall of 1943 at Twin Oaks with a teacher who held an emergency credential. She had moved to San Marcos from Ohio to take over the one-room schoolhouse and its 25 students. The woman, who hadn't been in a classroom for several years, quickly ran into trouble faced with the juggling of children in eight different grades and quit in October. The children from the Twin Oaks School finished out that year in the elementary school of the Vista Unified School District. The five eighth graders, Bill Uhland, John Mann, Bill Hanna, Marie McAnally and Travis Bagwell, were the only class from the Twin Oaks School to graduate from grade school in Vista.

In 1946 the Twin Oaks School District merged with the Escondido Union Elementary School District. In 1957, the Twin Oaks District became part of the Rich-Mar District of San Marcos.

The Twin Oaks School property was put up for auction after its closure in August, 1944 and was purchased by Norman Dawson for \$500.00. Dawson sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. John Grieger in 1950 for \$5,000. The school has been converted into a home but remains much the same on the outside. Instead of being white it is now yellow. A pepper tree stands in front of what used to be the steps and the front porch has been glassed in, thus closing off the steps the school children had climbed for over half a century. Out back are the privy's which have been fitted with toilets and the shed where extra desks were stored.

Now at 104 years young, the Twin Oaks School is still in proud condition, with its bell tower straight and tall.





GRADUATION

From the research material that is available, it appears the 1939 Graduating Class was the largest class to graduate in the history of the school.

On June 6, 1939 at 8 o'clock in the evening, seven graduates received diplomas and honor awards from Clinton Cook and Mrs. William Uhland, school board members. Delmar Gray, Superintendent of the Escondido Elementary School, gave the address.

The auditorium was packed to the doors for the closing day program in which all grades participated, from the tiny tots of the first grade to members of the graduating class. The program included: Military March by the primary grades Rhythm Band, Shepherds Dance by upper grades, play "Three Dwarf Brothers" by fourth, fifth and sixth grades and operetta "Spring Has Come to the Woods" by primary grades.

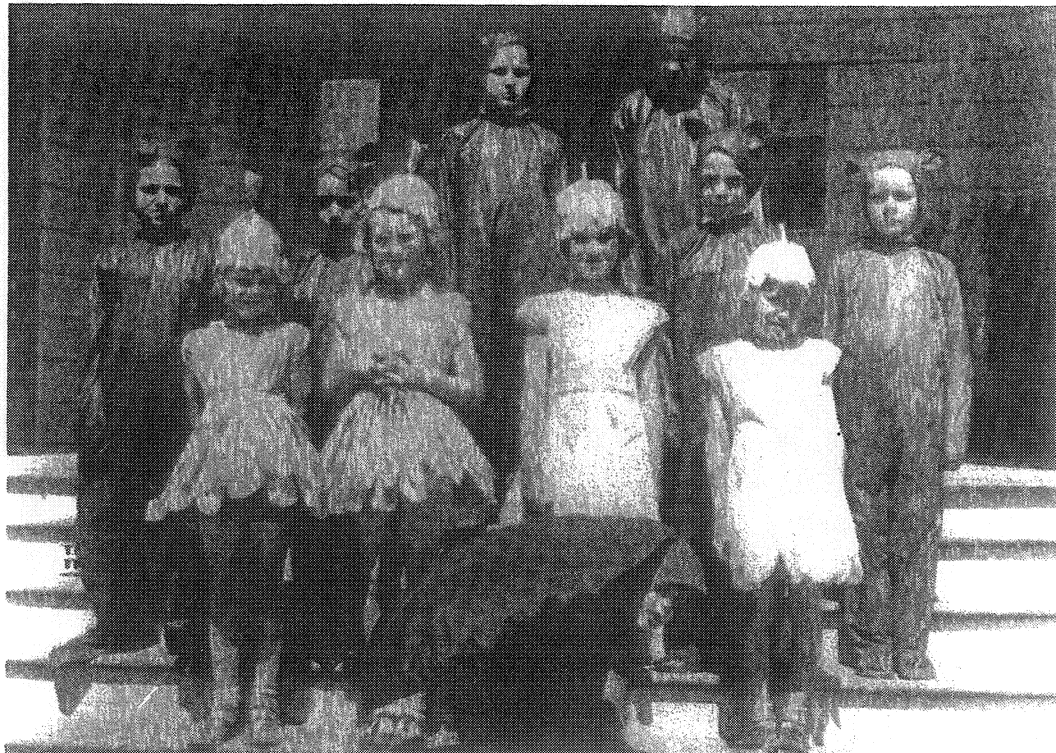
Graduates were Edith Bagwell, Ora Fern Hash, Edna Hodges, Ruth Uhland, Patsy Toner, Ruby Reed and Arthur Reed. The program included reading of the Class History by Ruth Uhland and Ruby Reed, reading of Class Wills by Patricia Toner and Edna Hodges, reading of Class Prophecy by Ora Fern Hash and Arthur Reed. Edith Bagwell read a poem she had written "Graduation".

Patsy Toner was awarded the Citizenship Honor Award of the American Legion Post of Escondido, an honor award bestowed yearly to six outstanding eighth grade pupils of the local high school district. Dr. Bert Dannenberg of Escondido presented the coveted certificate.

Mrs. Ruth Griswold was completing her last year of teaching at Twin Oaks and had been informed that the school was closing at the end of the school year. However, it did continue on under several teachers until 1943.

When Ruth Griswold was asked to write something about the school, this is an excerpt: "The community in 1939 was a peaceful, harmonious one of avocado groves on the hills and citrus in the valleys; where neighbor helped neighbor, where quilts were pieced for gifts, and the school was the center of the social activity. We had box socials and programs on almost all holidays; trips to the Huntington Library in Pasadena, San Diego's Natural History Museum, Museum of Man, the Zoo, San Luis Rey Mission, and other places connected with studies. The most exciting thing I can remember is one of the girls being bitten by a black diamond rattlesnake by the bathroom door." Mrs. Griswold tells of putting a tourniquet on little nine year old Dorothy Mary Reed and rushing her to Escondido to the doctor's office and then across the street to the hospital. She was later rushed to San Diego to a hospital in critical condition but fully recovered. (Mrs. Griswold's fast action was credited with saving Dorothy Mary's life.)

*Participants from Operetta
"Spring Has Come To The Woods"*



GRADUATION

By Edith Bagwell

Six beautiful girls and one handsome boy
Make up our eighth grade class
We've not much longer to study here
This soon will all be past.

We've had a jolly good time together
With picnics and parties gay
And still hope for many good times
After our graduation day.

We've all enjoyed the happy excursions
Our teacher took us upon
And hope to have so many more
Before school days are done.

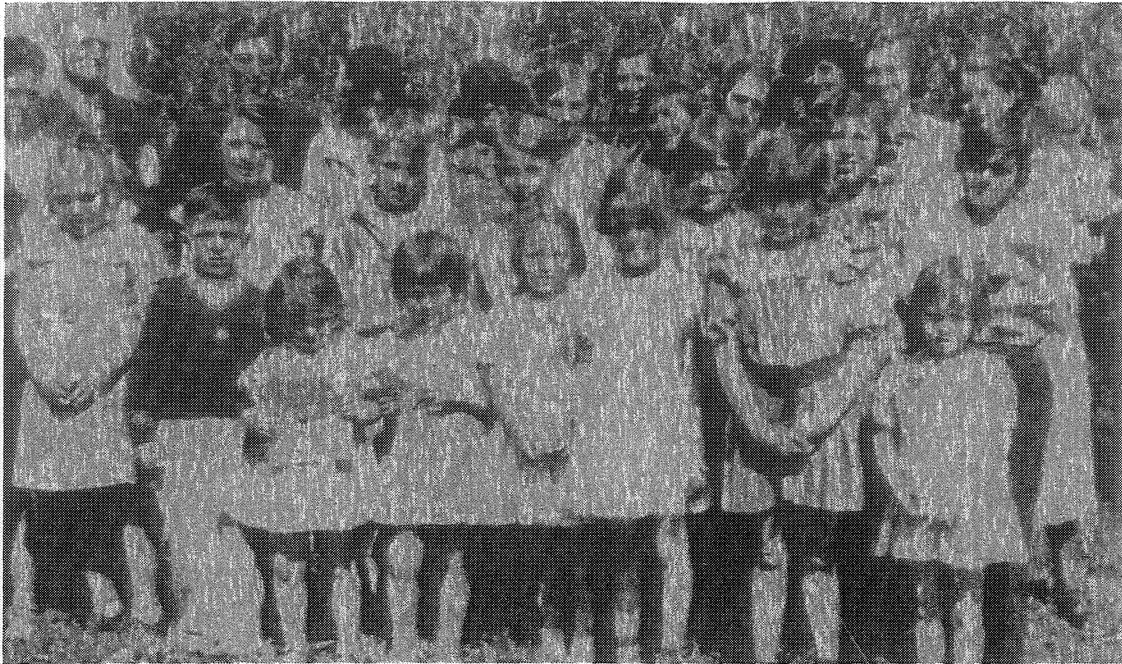
We have had such happy times
We have enjoyed it here
Studying to our heart's content
With our schoolmates dear.

Now these happy times are past
High school days are near
New friends and studies we will find
But none to us so dear.

8th Grade Graduation Class - 1939

Left to right: Arthur Reed, Ruby Reed, Edith Bagwell,
Edna Hodges, Teacher Mrs. Griswold, Ruth Uhland,
Patsy Toner and Ora Fern Hash.





SUNDAY SCHOOL AT THE SCHOOLHOUSE

The Bagwells were the guiding force in organizing a Sunday School for the Valley held in the schoolhouse. The Sunday School was organized under the auspices of the American Sunday School Union. Members of the First Baptist Church of Escondido came and helped in teaching Sunday School classes along with Mr. and Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Bagwell and Mr. Bagwell was the Sunday School Superintendent. Many teachers came over the years from First Baptist, including Mr. Icke, who was also science teacher at Escondido High School and Clell Horton. Mr. Bodie was the Missionary in charge of the American Sunday School Union and made regular visits to the Sunday School. He was later followed by Mr. Jenkins.

The Sunday School young people went to summer camp held by the American Sunday School Union on the beach at Carlsbad, where they were housed in tents. During the War the camp on the beach was closed and they went to Thousand Pines Camp in the mountains.

When the Twin Oaks School closed, many of the Valley young people became active in the youth group at First Baptist in Escondido.

*Sunday School Camp
at beach:*

*Edith Bagwell,
Paula Trivett and
Ruth Uhland*



SOCIALS AT THE SCHOOLHOUSE

The Twin Oaks School was the community center for the Valley. All of the residents of the valley participated in activities and potluck dinners were the most popular and enjoyed by the adults as well as the children.

We will always remember the tasty dishes brought to the potlucks. Ice cream socials and box socials were also popular. Parties were held for all the holidays and we could always look forward to bobbing for apples at the Halloween Party. The children always enjoyed the taffy pulls.

Below are two of the popular dishes served at the potlucks.

MRS. BAGWELL'S TAMALES PIE

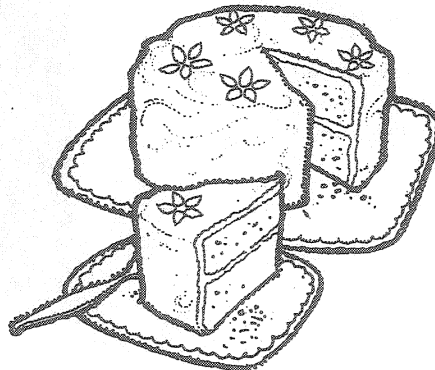
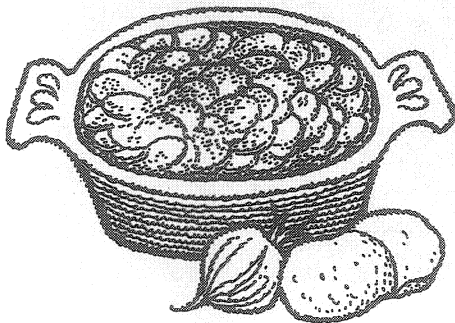
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|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 pound ground beef | 1 1/2 cups yellow cornmeal |
| Chopped onion | 3 well-beaten eggs |
| 1 - 16 oz. can stewed tomatoes | 2 cups milk |
| 1 - 16 oz. can corn | Dash of chili powder |
| 1/2 cup cooking oil | Dash of garlic |

Brown ground beef and onion together. Drain off fat. Put in large pot, add cans of tomatoes and corn (not drained) and oil. Simmer fifteen minutes. Mix corn meal, eggs, milk and spices together. Stir into other mixture. Continue cooking another fifteen minutes, stirring constantly (burns easily). Pour into "8x8" pan and one "9x5" loaf pan. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour.

MRS. TRIVETT'S BANANA CAKE

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 1/2 cups sugar | One pinch of salt |
| 1/2 cup shortening or butter | 2 eggs |
| 3 bananas | 1 1/2 cups flour |
| 1 teaspoon soda | 1 teaspoon vanilla |

Mix together. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 or 40 minutes.



Nostalgia!

Twin Oaks School Alumni Savor Reunion 50 Years After Last Attending Its Classes

*By Olive Marrical
For The News Reporter*

Memories of school days of more than half-a-century ago were recalled last Saturday as students who had attended the historic Twin Oaks School gathered for their first reunion.

There was music, a potluck lunch and an afternoon tour of their old schoolhouse on Deer Springs Road. It was converted into a home a few years after it was closed in 1943 and was sold. The school had housed grades 1 through 8 since the turn of the century.

But the order of the day was renewing friendships with childhood classmates and reminiscing, with much laughter, about school experiences. The event was held on the tree-shaded grounds of the Carol Dawson Helsel home in Twin Oaks Valley.

Several of the 50 former pu-

pils and family members present Saturday remain residents of Twin Oaks, and others live in nearby Escondido, San Marcos and Vista.

But Lucille Dawson Haskell traveled from Rio Linda, north of Sacramento; Albert Cook from his home in Kingsburg, near Fresno; Paula Tvedt and her husband, Rolf, from Tarzana; Edith Bagwell Hughes and husband Ralph from National City; Thelma Dawson Drivick and husband John from Anza. The fourth Dawson sister, Gladys Larson, and her husband, Marlin, who live in Twin Oaks, also were present.

In preparation for the event, Helsel and other local residents wracked their brains to resurrect the Twin Oaks School Song that Edith Bagwell had written before being graduated from the 8th grade in 1939, and confessed she had forgotten most of the lyrics.

But--they were revived in time for occasion, and a sextet of former students sang it. With gusto!

For the reunion, the songwriter, who spent 30 years as manager of the National City Chamber of Commerce, wrote another--"I Left My Heart in Twin Oaks Valley," which her husband presented to the tune of the San Francisco version.

Ralph Hughes and his brother-in-law, Travis Bagwell of Escondido, who went from 1st grade through 8th grade (1936-1943) at the school, gave a rendition of "Heart of My Heart" and a medley of other tunes. Bagwell and Dorothy Hurst Ross of Escondido together sang "Amazing Grace."

Recollections were many and varied. Mention was made of the beautiful yellow violets and johnny-jump-ups surrounding the school, an owl's nest in a sycamore tree beside the school, a child bitten by a black-diamond rattler, special activities at Hallowe'en and Easter, softball games and kite days, such games as dare base, steal the bacon, red rover, hide and seek--"and we had an orchestra!"

It generally was agreed that Bill Uhland, local resident who termed himself a dirt farmer, was the instigator of most pranks.

Everyone walked to school from throughout the valley in those days. Recalling "horrendous rainstorms and floods" in 1937, Ross said, "The children couldn't get to school. So Harry Uhland (who lived at the corner of Twin Oaks and Buena Creek Roads) carried several of them

Continued

across in his car."

And Paula Trivett Tvedt remembered that her father took her to school on horseback through the flood waters.

Sunday school was conducted at the schoolhouse for several years and Wilma Newman Stults of Vista remembered attending church there as a six-year-old.

Brothers Elwood and Edwin Foy of Escondido attended the reunion with their wives, and Elwood reported, "I went to school for recess and lunch," to which Escondidan Marilyn Shriver quipped, "And I did well in both."

Dick Merriam of Twin Oaks, great-grandson of the first settler in Twin Oaks Valley, Maj. Gustavus French Merriam, said, "I took lunch every day and took the cookies out."

They all knew her as "Miss Calloway," the youngest and last teacher at the school in 1942, with 16 pupils--"a good bunch!"

Now Mrs. Roy (Winifred) Williamson, 80 years old and living in Escondido, she said, "I had more fun at that school. They were a group and supported each other. I don't remember ever having to stop a fight."

She told of the time that "We got word we had a new student out of Los Angeles, and the students all made faces. We needed two more players for our ball team and, when the new student arrived, the big question was, 'Can she play ball?'"

"She got a bat and the ball went farther than anyone's. So, then, she was all right."

The star player was Marilyn Shriver, who went on to become physical education teacher at Escondido High School for 37 years, and served as coach of swimming, basketball, tennis and fencing.

Expressing the general feeling of the entire group, Lester Radcliff of Escondido, who was a pupil at Twin Oaks School from the 1st to the 5th grade, commented, "The wonderful simplicity of it all--that's what I loved about Twin Oaks Valley."

1995 REUNION

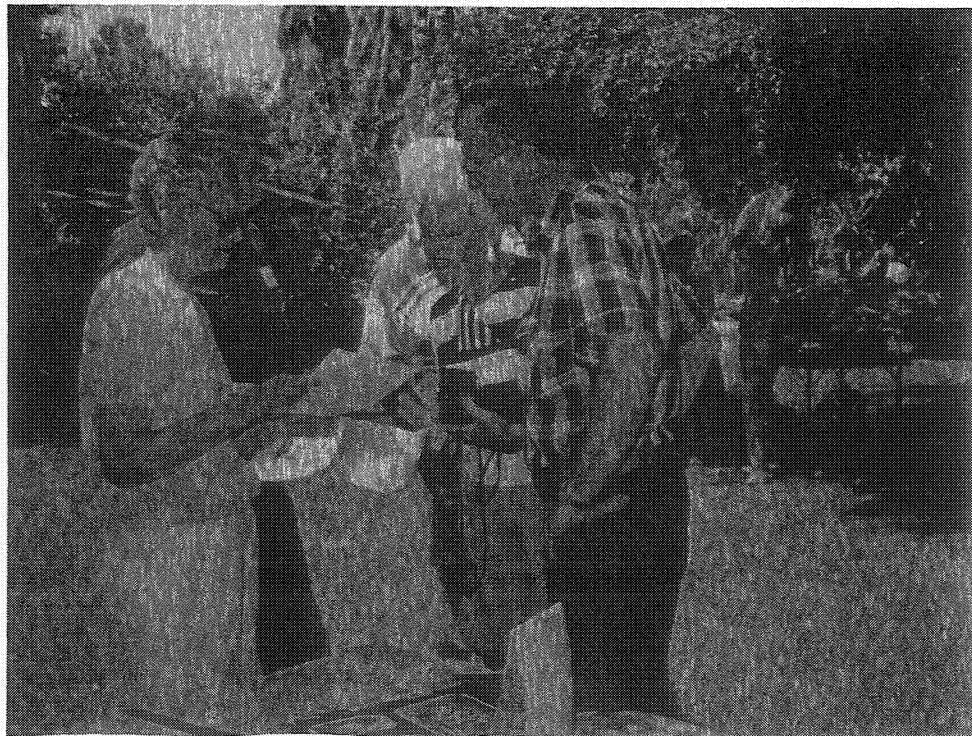


Front row, left to right: Paula Trivett Tvedt, Marilyn Shriver, Dorothy Hurst Ross, Thelma Dawson Drivick, Lucille Dawson Haskell, Carol Dawson Helsel, Dorothy Green Harrison, Edith Bagwell Hughes and Harker Smith. Back row: Travis Bagwell, Bill Uhland and Vern Newman.



Right: Travis Bagwell and Dorothy Hurst Ross singing at Reunion.

Below: On right, Clarissa and Bill Uhland. Left, Thelma Dawson Drivick and Albert Cook



UHLAND

Three generations of Uhlands have contributed to the history of Twin Oaks School. Jacob and Elizabeth Uhland were born in Germany, married there and had one child, Anna, before they immigrated to Chicago in the early 1880's. Another daughter, Elizabeth was born there.

The Uhlands read the alluring brochures on Olivenhain (formerly Rancho Encinitas) circulated at the time and decided to come west. In company with other German families, the Uhlands and their two children came by train via Colton and Temecula Canyon to Encinitas in the late fall of 1885.

These Germans were skilled artisans, not farmers. On arrival they found nothing but brush on the acreage at Olivenhain. No water and no trees. The men had families to support so their position was critical. They fanned out over the countryside looking for work. Some went to the coast, some to Escondido, others to Valley Center.

Jacob Uhland and George Oden heard of Major Merriam of North Twin Oaks Valley. They walked the twelve miles to the Merriam home, now the site of the Sarver Nursery. Major Merriam hired them and encouraged them to take up homesteads. George Oden homesteaded adjacent to the Major on the west, and Jacob Uhland homesteaded north of the Major. There he built a one story home with an attic. Two children were born to Jacob and Elizabeth in this home, Harry and William, making four in all. The children went to the little Twin Oaks School built in 1881, then to the school by Major Merriam's house that is now called Sarver Lane and they finished school at the Twin Oaks School.

William Uhland married Ruth Rooker, a teacher who taught two years at Buena Vista and two years at Twin Oaks School. They had two children— Ruth and Bill who both attended Twin Oaks School. Both William and Ruth were active in the activities at Twin Oaks School with Ruth serving on the School Board.



Bill Uhland
and Clarissa



Bill attended Twin Oaks School from 1936 until its closing in 1943, when he transferred to Vista Elementary School to finish the 8th grade. Bill graduated from Escondido High School and attended Palomar College.

Bill never left Twin Oaks Valley and his home is just on the other side of a eucalyptus grove that marks the boundary of the old Twin Oaks School. Although he is retired now, his working years were spent as a farmer growing oranges, lemons, avocados and walnuts.

He is a charter member of the San Marcos Rotary Club, a San Marcos Volunteer Fireman for eighteen years, nine years on the Rich Mar School District Board and a Director on the Board of the San Marcos Cemetery for five years.

Bill, and his wife of forty-four years, Clarissa, have two children— Marilyn Kise who lives in Chico and Jim Uhland of San Marcos. They have five grandchildren, including a pair of twins.

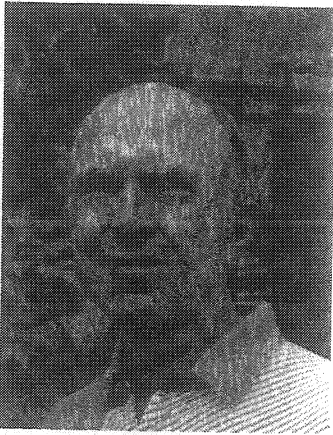
RUTH UHLAND

1925 - 1988



Ruth attended all eight grades at Twin Oaks School. She graduated from Escondido High School in 1943, went to Oceanside-Carlsbad Junior College for one year and graduated from San Diego State in 1947. She was an elementary school teacher in Brawley from 1948 to 1980. She died of cancer on January 23, 1988.

BAGWELL



Travis Bagwell

Edith Bagwell
Hughes and
Ralph



Travis attended Twin Oaks School from 1936 to 1943. He graduated from Escondido High School and received his AA degree at Palomar College. He served two years in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1953, during the Korean conflict, and spent most of the time in Japan. After the Army, he attended Biola College in Los Angeles where he met Louise Ward and they were married in 1955. They settled in Escondido where Travis still lives.

Travis went into banking and worked for Bank of America for twelve years and San Diego Trust for eighteen years. He retired in 1985 and he and Louise did some traveling. Louise died in 1988 after thirty-three years of marriage.

After retirement he worked part time for a year at a health club as a fitness instructor and was office manager for a construction company for six years. In 1994 Travis worked five and a half months in Bolivia as a Bookkeeper for a missionary organization and three weeks in Nigeria in 1995 for the same mission board.

Throughout the years Travis and Louise were heavily involved in the music ministry of their church and he is still involved.

These days ping pong, tennis and working out at the health club take up much of Travis' time. He says it's a tough life, but someone has to do it!

He has two children—Cindy Gellinger lives in Lake Oswego, Oregon with husband, Mark, and children Robin (8) and Corey (6). Son, Steve and wife, Anita, just moved to Nevada City, California.

MEMORIES: Travis fondly remembers the great kite days and play days we had with other small schools in the area, as well as all the "wild" games of Red Rover, Steal the Bacon, Dare Base, Hide and Seek, etc.



Edith attended Twin Oaks School from 1934 to 1939. She graduated from Escondido High School in 1943 and went to work as bookkeeper for the Escondido Mutual Water Company, where she worked for two years. In November, 1945 she married a soldier from Kansas, John Sherman, and moved with him to Kansas where he enrolled at Ottawa University. While he attended college Edith worked at the Franklin County Farm Bureau Office. While in Kansas her first child was born.

They moved back to California in 1947 and for the next three years they lived briefly in Redlands, Escondido, San Marcos and Vista. Husband John was teaching violin and Edith accompanied his students in recitals and had a few piano students that she taught.

In 1950 they settled in National City and Edith began a long and exciting career with the National City Chamber of Commerce. For the first ten years she was Office Secretary. In 1960 she was named General Manager and held that position until 1975. During this time her marriage ended in divorce. In 1974 she married National City businessman, Ralph Hughes. In 1975 she retired from the Chamber of Commerce and managed Ralph's insurance agency until they sold it in 1984. She retired for the second time but not for long—the Chamber of Commerce pleaded with her to come back and rebuild the Chamber of Commerce. Edith and Ralph went back as a team—Edith as Manager and Ralph as Membership Director and built the Chamber of Commerce up to 700 members. She retired again in November, 1993 and since that time works a few hours a week as Membership Director.

In addition to the Chamber of Commerce work, Edith has been Executive Director of National City's Maytime Band Review Parade since 1955, a post she still holds. She has the responsibility of putting on the annual parade which draws about fifty high school and junior high school bands from throughout the State of California.

Edith has received many honors during her career including being listed in "Who's Who of Women in the World", "Who's Who of American Women" and "Who's Who in California". She was named "1973 Woman of Achievement for San Diego County" and "1992 Woman of Accomplishment". She and Ralph were named "1986 Citizens of the Year" for National City. She has been a church organist and pianist for many years and at present is Activities Director for the Senior Citizens group at Calvary Baptist Church in National City.

She has one son, Dennis, who is Pastor of a church in Irvine and daughter, Twila, who lives in National City. She is a proud grandmother to five grandchildren in addition to two step-children, four step-grandchildren and five step-great grandchildren.

MEMORIES: Edith's very special memories are of the music lessons given at the school. She first started violin lessons on a violin loaned to her by Mrs. Trivett and played in the school orchestra. As soon as her parents could afford a piano she switched to piano lessons and continued studying the piano through high school with Mrs. Stonecipher.

COOK



Carolyn Cook
Kauffman



Albert Cook
and Shirley

Carolyn attended Twin Oaks School from 1938 to the Spring of 1943 when the school closed. From there she went to Vista Junior High School, Escondido High School and Kelsey Jenney Business College.

From 1950 to 1953 she did office work for California Electric Works in San Diego. In 1952 she married John Kauffman a Navy man from Arkansas. (The marriage ended in divorce in 1983). From 1972 to 1994 she worked for Smith Whetstone Company in Hot Springs, Arkansas in shipping department doing private hot stamp branding and silk screening and part-time packer and shipper. She retired from that job in 1994 and works part-time for Timber Lake Cedar in Hot Springs doing hot stamping, using band saw, buffing machine and packaging.

In 1993 she sold her home on Lake Catherine and bought a 16x80 three-bedroom mobile home in which she lives in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Her mother, Mildred Cook, lives with her.

Carolyn has four children: Carolyn Joyce Comer who lives in Jacksonville, Arkansas; Marilyn Louise Bradley, North Augusta, South Carolina; James Luther Kauffman, Bryant, Arkansas; and Mary Catherine Oliver, Charleston, South Carolina. She is blessed with ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

MEMORIES: She remembers the school had no electricity, restrooms and water fountain were out back. She has fond memories of the maypole dances, play days and kite days with other schools, the Victory garden we had at school during World War II and helping Kenny Dawson with his reading and penmanship classes.

*At right: Back - Clinton and Mildred Cook
Middle - Albert and Carolyn
Front - Gordon*

Below: Vacation Bible School - 1946



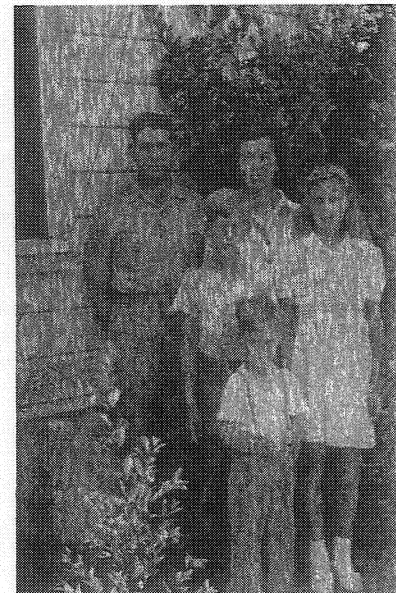
Albert attended Twin Oaks School from 1941 to 1943 until it closed. He went from there to Vista Elementary School for one year, San Marcos Elementary two years and on to Escondido Elementary for three years. After graduating from Escondido High School he went to Cal Poly for two years and Northrup Institute of Technology for four years, earning a B. S. Degree in Aeronautical Engineering.

Albert worked six years as a Senior Test Engineer for North American-Rocketdyne where he personally tested all engines used on second and third stages of Saturn 5 rocket used to take American astronauts to the moon. The next fifteen years he spent in Design Engineering and management for designing and building agricultural equipment for the New Holland Division, Sperry Corporation. The next eight years he was Co-owner and General Manager of Rackshelf Company, Inc., a material handling design and sales company. For the last five years he has been with Salwasser Manufacturing Company designing case packing machinery.

Albert and his wife Shirley live in Kingsburg, California. They have two children—Holly Lehrman lives in Reedley, CA, and Stuart Cook lives in Pueblo, CO. They have two grandchildren.

Albert has been a member of the Kingsburg Police Department for twenty-one years as a Reserve and Community Service Officer, where he is the department's weapons expert. His hobbies include guns, hunting and camping. He holds a private pilot's license and professional engineer's license.

MEMORIES: Albert says he loved school at Twin Oaks, the school was small and each student received personal attention from the teacher. He has special memories of playing in the Eucalyptus and Sycamore trees and the kite days and other special activities.





Elwood Foy
and Frances

FOY

Edwin Foy
and Della



Elwood attended Twin Oaks School from 1927 to 1930 and graduated from Escondido High School. He went to work after graduating from high school.

Elwood's Dad had worked for Russell Cox on his ranch for a small salary plus house and utilities. During this time his parents were working on construction of a new home in Escondido. The house was ready to move into in September of 1930 and Elwood and brother Edwin started to high school in Escondido.

Elwood and Frances were married in 1935 and lived on the second floor of the Trenton Apartments in downtown Escondido. It was like a "bird in a cage" for Elwood after the wide-open farm space. Soon they had built a little house south of town and happily moved in . . . onto a mini-farm. With four children romping the acre, Uncle Sam decided he needed Elwood's help so he obliged for a year, until the war came to a halt.

Elwood has had a variety of jobs, never lacking for work to do. He says Frances has been an efficient home-maker and devoted mother. By the year 1955 the Lord had blessed them with eight healthy, intelligent children—two boys and six girls.

All eight children were able to be together in 1995 and put on a 60th Anniversary celebration for Elwood and Frances. They say it has been a happy time-span for them, busy serving in Emmanuel Faith Community Church and helping others whenever the opportunity arises.

It goes without saying that Elwood and Frances have spent many, many happy hours keeping a stadium or a gymnasium seat warm as they hollered for one or the other of their four kids who were deep into sports—the two sons and two of the daughters.

Their children are scattered over the country in Washington, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Central and Southern California. They are: Wynona, Virginia, James, Thomas, Judith, Joan, Jeannette and Sharon. They are proud grandparents to 31 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren.

MEMORIES: Being of a shy nature and always keeping in the background, Elwood says he and his brother were more observers, rather than participants. The teacher paid him \$5.00 a month for regularly sweeping out the classroom, and that made him feel quite important. Having come from the same type of one-room school back in the dry-lands of Montana, and "boarding" the current teacher, as they changed almost every year - fresh out of Normal School, Twin Oaks seemed quite uneventful.

A Twin Oaks student from 1928 to 1930, Edwin's family moved to Escondido where he graduated from Escondido High School.

Edwin went to work after high school working on several ranches. He spent three years in the Air Force and worked at Escondido Cement Products until he retired in 1977.

He is married to Della Myers Foy and has four children: William Foy, Linda Foy Larsen and John Foy all live in Escondido, Julie Foy Doss lives in Tracy, California. They have ten grandchildren and one great grandchild.

EDNA MARIE FOY ORANTES

Died 1976 of rheumatoid arthritis

VINCENT ORANTES

Died 1990 of a heart attack

Edna attended Twin Oaks School from 1928 to 1930. Vincent attended Twin Oaks School from about 1934-35.

They had three daughters—Susan, Kathie and Karen.

Elwood Foy Family



DAWSON



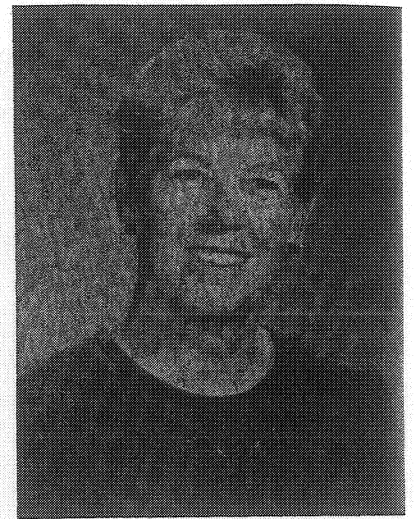
Lucille Dawson Haskell
and Gene

Lucille attended Twin Oaks School from 1940 to 1943. She married her high school sweetheart, Gene Haskell, and had four children. She was a mother and homemaker until her youngest was 18 and then went to work for a heating and air conditioning company and has worked there ever since. She says she and Gene hope to retire in the next year or so.

Lucille and Gene have been married for forty-two years and live in a 24 x 60 mobile home on their own lot in Rio Linda (Sacramento area). They love to travel and have spent their whole married life doing as much traveling as possible and have been to a lot of places and done a lot of interesting things with their family. They started out traveling in a pickup with a tarp over the top and now have the luxury of a 25-foot camp trailer.

They have four children— Roger lives in Denver, Colorado; Mary Ann Livingston lives in Carmichael, California; Leon lives in Roseville, California and Diane Lynn Warner in Escondido. They have enjoyed ten grandchildren over the years.

MEMORIES: Lucille says her memories of Twin Oaks School are happy ones. Albert Cook and Darlene Ford were in her class and 7th and 8th grade students would come over and help them read. She particularly remembers during the winter different mothers would bring soup or something hot for the lunches. She remembers all the fun they had with their teacher, Miss Calloway, and sometimes she would come on Saturday and go hiking with them. Other memories are the big stove in the one room schoolhouse to keep us warm, the many plays the students put on for the holidays and the times during the year when the residents of the Valley would have a potluck dinner and clean up the school yard— these were real happy times. She fondly recalls the May Pole Dances and during the War the students planted victory gardens and saved tin foil, the school was our community center and also our Sunday School. Other memories are of making May Baskets and putting flowers from off the tree in front of the school for our mothers and one time they made pins out of the pods off the trees for gifts for the mothers. Washing the teacher's car for a project was also fun. Lucille says that her days at Twin Oaks School were happy days and she will always remember them.



Carol Dawson
Helsel

Although Carol was too young to attend Twin Oaks School, she was very much a part of the Valley as she was the little sister who played with all of us. After elementary and high school days, Carol took adult education courses in flower arranging, cake decorating and Spanish I and II.

She was married to Roger Helsel for thirty years and has been divorced for eight years. She was a homemaker until the last of her three children attended elementary school. She then started to work as a bus driver for eight years and a bus driver's aide (special education) for five years. She now holds two jobs— the first she has held for three years as a Classroom Aide for severely handicapped children and on the second job she works on request as a transportation driver for Chateau Lake San Marcos Retirement Community. She drives the seniors to plays, symphonies, doctor's appointments, grocery shopping, etc., a job she has held for six years. On the side, she decorates birthday and wedding cakes for friends and relatives.

Carol was named 1973 SAN MARCOS WOMAN OF THE YEAR. She has three children— Chris Vetter, Don Helsel and Norman Helsel who all live in Escondido and fifteen grandchildren.

MEMORIES: Carol remembers walking over to school to meet her older brother and sisters and asking Miss Calloway to teach her to read. She has fond memories of attending Sunday School and Vacation Bible School at the Twin Oaks Schoolhouse, the plays put on for the parents and at Christmas the kids received a special decorated box of mixed candy, walnuts, oranges and apples. Travis Bagwell would lead the Sunday singing. She often thinks of the hand wound victrola, the stage that had curtains drawn by hand from each side during performances, the potluck dinners and the clean-up days around the school. She says "there was a lot of neighbor togetherness".



DAWSON



Gladys Dawson
Larson

From 1939 to 1942 Gladys attended Twin Oaks School and finished 7th and 8th grades in Escondido. She graduated from Escondido High School and went to Palomar College for one year. She went to Nurses Training for three years and earned her R. N. Degree at San Diego County Hospital.

After graduating from nurse's training, she worked three years full-time in Pediatrics, Urology and Ear, Nose and Throat Departments. She then worked two years part-time at Palomar Hospital on night relief.

Gladys taught Sunday School for several years. She is married to Marlin and lived in San Diego for almost six years, Escondido for two years and came back home to Twin Oaks Valley where she has lived the past fifty-seven years and loves it. She has traveled some in later years.

She has four children—Lorraine lives in The Meadows, Laura in San Jose and Sylvia and Ralph both live nearby in Twin Oaks Valley. She has nine grandchildren.

MEMORIES: Gladys says she has many happy memories of Twin Oaks School but particularly remembers the good time playing Dare Base and Hide and Seek.



Thelma Dawson
Drivick and
John

Thelma attended Twin Oaks School only one year and then finished elementary school in Vista and at Escondido Central School. She left school after her sophomore year to get married. After three children she divorced and went to work for Convair. She transferred to General Dynamics where she worked on the Atlas Missile and was sent to Cape Canaveral, Florida to the Missile Base where she was able to go into the Block House and stand at the launch towers to see other missiles. She also worked at Edwards Missile Base.

Thelma met and married her second husband and had three more children. During this time she completed high school at El Cajon Adult School. She then started driving a school bus for handicapped children and for seven years drove the regular high school bus for Grossmont School District. She divorced again. She went to work for San Diego Transit and worked there for twenty years until she retired on a disability.

Thelma married her third (and she says last) husband, John who is a retired Captain of the U. S. Marine Corps. They have been married for twenty years and live in Anza, CA (near Idyllwild). They have five acres and a double-wide mobile home. Gardening and travel are now their main interests, along with their family.

MEMORIES: Thelma recalls that school was always started with the Pledge of Allegiance and singing "God Bless America". She is one of the only people (outside of her classmates) that knows the verse to "God Bless America" and she learned it at Twin Oaks School. After that they would do exercises for a few minutes to a Sousa record on the Victrola. Doing leather and copper work was something that the teacher, Miss Calloway, brought and Thelma still does leather work. Thelma looked forward to the May Baskets as she loved flowers, especially the "Johnny Jump Ups" that grew all over the school yard. One of Thelma's fondest memories is the graduation ceremony. Getting ready for it was something everyone worked on, setting up the stage and chairs and decorating with crepe paper streamers along the aisle the graduates would walk down, with real flowers attached here and there. Everyone in the Valley would come and bring flowers, cards and gifts for the graduates. The stage would be totally covered with flowers. Thelma says her one regret is that she didn't get to graduate from Twin Oaks School as they closed it when she was in the sixth grade.

Thelma's other fond memories are of a family of owls that lived in the big sycamore tree down by the road and every year they had a bunch of babies and the students would get to climb the tree and look at them. She says that at lunchtime they all ate under the big pepper tree on the benches and she remembers turning them upside down and pretending they were canoes. She chuckles over the memory of a Victory Garden during World War II that she and Marilyn Shriver had

DAWSON

together. (The teacher put one older and one younger kid together) and someone brought radish seeds and they planted them. They grew great, but when it was time to harvest, they found they were horse radish and were they surprised! Thelma recalls Mr. Cook would bring a battery operated radio to school so the students could listen to "The National School Broadcast", which she really enjoyed and also the three dimensional displays the Library would bring and the stories the teacher would read one chapter a day, like a serial. Thelma learned the states and capitols by having the pieces of a puzzle held up backwards and the first one to name the State and Capitol got the piece of the puzzle. The one with the most was the winner and she always won. She doesn't think Junior Staley or Norm Tarbutton cared much—they were the only other kids in her class. Thelma says that attending Twin Oaks School was the, best memory anyone could have.

KENNETH DAWSON

Kenneth attended Twin Oaks School for two years, along with his sisters. After Twin Oaks School closed he attended his last year in elementary school in Vista before going to Escondido High School. He left home at age fifteen with his neighborhood friend, Bob Findlay. They hitch-hiked to Montana where he worked on farms and odd jobs before ending up on oil rigs.

He married Donna Mays in Montana and they had two boys—Ronny and Randy. In about 1960 he moved his family to California and worked at the Carlsbad plant for San Diego Gas and Electric. He went into business for himself doing yard work and then went to work for Frank's Welding in Escondido before opening his own portable welding business and has been very creative in designing things. He married Linda Hunt (from Escondido) in 1975.

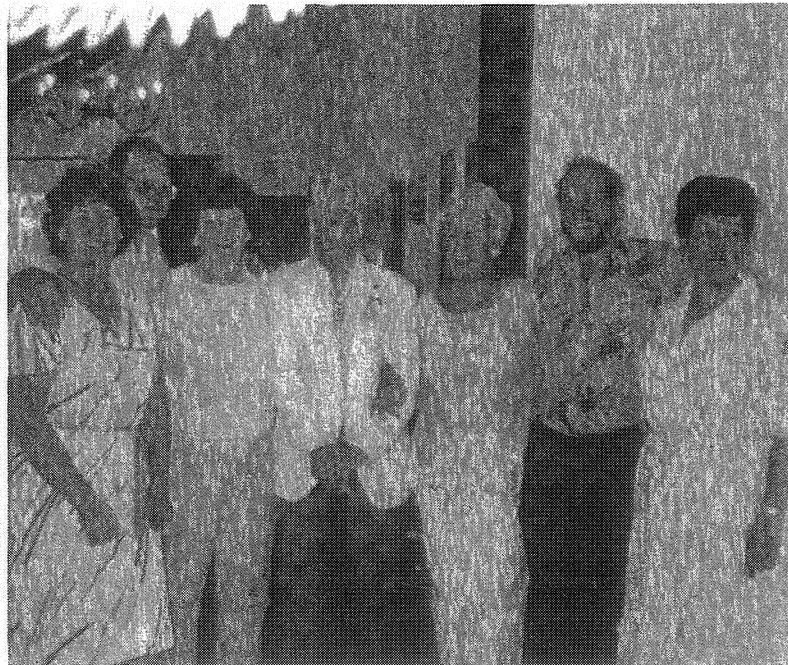
Ken is now in the process of selling his two-story Victorian home in Anza, California which he built himself, and moving his business to Arizona near Payson, where he is building a new home.

Ken has two children, six grandchildren and three stepchildren.



Left to right: Norman and Violet with Children Gladys, La Kenneth, Carol and youngest, Bob, in front. (Missing Thelma).

Below: Left to right: Carol, Kenneth, Gladys, father No Thelma, Bob and Lucille.



HARRISON

Lenna Harrison Ogden

Lenna attended Twin Oaks School from 1937 to 1940 and then on to Escondido High School. After finishing high school she worked for awhile in Inglewood, CA and then moved to Vista where she worked and married Willard Ogden on November 15, 1947. They lived around Vista until 1950. Their next move was to Arkansas where they raised livestock and three children.

Willard had a heart attack when he was 47 years old that caused him to slow down some. He passed away in 1980. After Willard died Lenna started doing crafts and tried her hand at quilting, but says she is not very good at it yet. She has made several for her children and grandchildren. Along with church, her small garden and crafts keep her busy.

Lenna has three children—Kenneth, Rodger and Kathryn who all live in Arkansas. She has six grandchildren and one great grandchild.

MEMORIES: Lenna says she remembers the Kite Days and going on field trips. She recalls that when she and Dorothy Hurst were in the sixth grade there was a very large map of the United States and they glued different things on each state to show what that state's main product was. She particularly remembers that Ora Fern Hash and Arthur Reed were flag monitors. They put the flag up every day and took it down at the end of the day. One night they forgot and left it up. Mrs. Griswold decided to have a trial and Ruth Uhland was the judge. Dorothy Hurst, Ruby Reed, Paul Trivett and Lenna were the jury. Mrs. Griswold was upset when the jury found them "not guilty".

JEROME HARRISON

Died August 30, 1983

BERTHA BILYEU HARRISON

Died January 15, 1989

Both attended Twin Oaks School.
They had three daughters.



HODGES



Jim Hodges and Donna

Jim (or Jimmy as he was called at school) attended Twin Oaks School from 1936-38. From there he went to Escondido Elementary School for 5th through 8th grades and on to Escondido High School where he graduated in 1948. He attended Palomar Junior College for a year before going to San Diego State University where he graduated in 1952. Jim did graduate work at San Diego State University, UCSD and Pepperdine University. He earned a B. A. Degree in Psychology and his M. A. Degree in Education. He holds credentials in General Secondary Teaching, Pupil Personnel Services, School Psychometrist and School Administration.

Jim lives in University City and for the past forty years has been employed with the San Diego County Office of Education, serving as a teacher in the Court Schools. He is presently working at Sarah Anthony School located at Juvenile Hall. He concurrently worked as an hourly teacher with San Diego Community College District as an instructor in Behavioral Science for about fifteen years.

In 1961, Jim served as President of the San Diego Council of Diving Clubs and initiated action that led to the establishment of the underwater marine park that extends from La Jolla Cove to Scripps Pier area. Jim is prominent in underwater photography and received awards and several of his works were published in different areas of the world. (He is no longer active in diving.)

Jim's wife, Donna, has become well-known for her Teddy Bears that she manufactures through "Cotton Industry". Their time is mostly occupied with her world-wide business, though they are cutting back and getting set for retirement. Jim and Donna plan to move just north of Calistoga, California where they bought land to build on in the Fall of 1996.

Jim and Donna have five children—Jay lives in San Diego, Lyn in San Jose, Tami in Middletown, California, Jeffrey in San Diego and Jennifer in Warrenton, Virginia. They have nine grandchildren.

MEMORIES: Jim's memories include starting and stopping the diesel engine that drove the water pump. He says that longbelt drive made such a slapping noise when it whirled around. He fondly remembers the special community programs the children put on, particularly the Christmas Pageants and the box socials. He will never forget the near tragedy when Dorothy Reed was bitten by a rattlesnake next to the girls restroom door and how all the students wrote notes to her while she was recovering. Jim says "who doesn't remember the sound of our school bell ringing and how much joy Billy Uhland would show when he would get to ring the bell."

NEWMAN



Vernon Newman



Wilma Newman Stults

Vern attended Twin Oaks School for first and second grades and then finished elementary school in Vista (where he had Mrs. Griswold of Twin Oaks Fame in the sixth grade). He attended Vista High School and Escondido High where he graduated in 1949. He attended Anthony's Contractors School and received his contractor's license in 1952.

Following high school Vern was a ranch hand for a couple of years and worked in Sears Service and Plumbing Departments in 1950-51. In 1952 he was Plumbing Manager for Pine Tree Lumber Company. For the next ten years, 1953-63 he was a self-employed contractor doing septic tanks, sewers, pipelines and golf courses. From 1963 to 1974 he built golf courses, including Seven Lakes in Palm Springs, Deauville in Tarzana, La Canada Golf Course, Mission Viejo Golf Course, Vacation Village Golf Course, Pauma Valley Golf Course and remodeled a golf course for the City of Pasadena for the 1968 L. A. Open. From 1975-80 he was Construction Manager and Assistant Vice President of McKellar Development Corporation of La Jolla, doing residential and commercial development in five states. From 1988 to present he has been doing business as Vern Newman, Inc. and does general engineering, general building and plumbing for mobile home and RV parks. He semi-retired in 1993 to travel extensively.

Vern has three children— Clifford Newman of Fallbrook, Larry Newman and Cindy Newman both of Escondido. He has one grandson.

MEMORIES: Vern's most vivid memory is walking to school with his shoes on his shoulder and he would put them on upon entering school and remove them for the walk home so they would last the whole year. He had to walk three miles each way from Trussell's Dairy where his Dad worked. He remembers the order and teaching decorum, considering all grades were present in one room, and the teacher seemed to be in charge and on top of things "most" of the time. He remembers the fun times playing games and the little yellow (Sour Grass) flowers everywhere. He has fond memories of going to Sunday School in the schoolhouse, even after moving out of the Valley.

MERLENE NEWMAN MOORE Deceased 1993

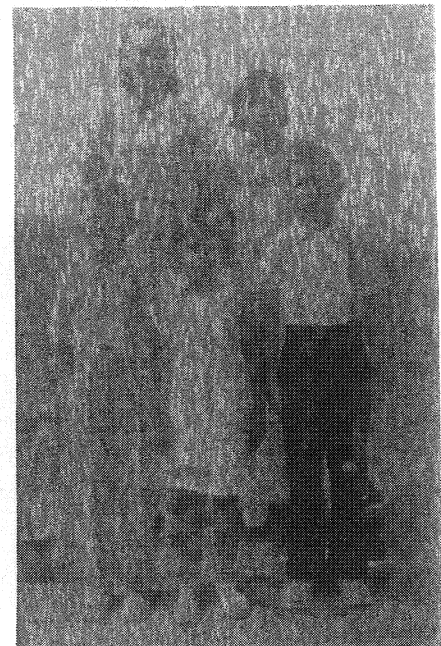
Merlene attended early grades at Twin Oaks. She was married to Jack Moore and they had one son, Stanley, who lives in Poway. Merlene was the daughter of Jack and Dovie Newman and a cousin to Wilma and Vern Newman. Following high school she worked for many years in Rancho Bernardo.

Although Wilma only attended first grade at Twin Oaks School she was very much a part of the Valley as she spent a lot of time at Grandpa and Grandma Bagwell's home and attended Sunday School there. She attended Vista Schools until the Tenth Grade when dropped out at age 17 to marry Dealus Stults. She has been a housewife for the past forty-five years and has lived in the same house in Vista for fifty-four years, the house where she grew up from eight. Wilma and Dealus have four children— Raymond Stults lives in Carlsbad, Wanda Kelly who lives in Everett, Washington, Deborah Emens who lives in Vista and Douglas Stults who lives in Vista. They have five grandchildren and five great grandchildren. They have raised their grandson, Justin, for the past fourteen years.

Wilma's hobbies are reading, playing games and traveling. Her favorite places to travel are Oregon, Washington and Pismo beach.

MEMORIES: Wilma has many fond memories of Twin Oaks School and especially the big Christmas trees and gifts. She remembers going to Sunday School at the Schoolhouse and slumber parties there (she thinks they were the Sunday School girls). She remembers all the potluck dinners and the fun going Trick or Treating in the Valley. She particularly remembers going to Cook's barn for a Halloween party and it was decorated real "spooky". She also remembers going to many potlucks at the Palhegi's home where Carol Dawson Helsel now lives.

*Front row: Wilma and Vern Newman and Travis Bagwell
Back row: Dorothy Green and Edith Bagwell*



HURST



Dorothy Hurst Ross and Patrick

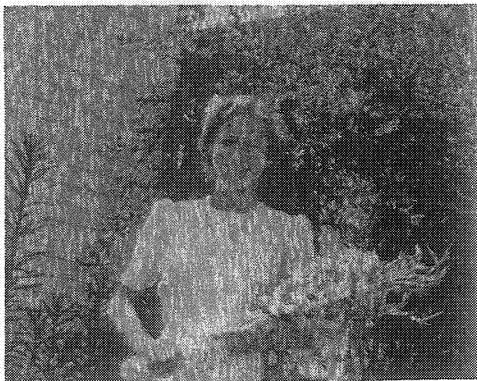
After attending Twin Oaks School 1936 to 1940, Dorothy graduated from Escondido High School and went to work at Sloan's Photos and Supplies in Escondido. She married in 1948 and had four beautiful children, three girls and one boy. They lived in Twin Oaks until 1953 when they moved to Escondido. All of her children are graduates of Escondido High School.

She says the Lord had other plans for her and her marriage ended in 1970. She had to go to work, and after reviewing some courses at Palomar College she was fortunate to obtain a position as the Principal's Secretary at Orange Glen High School. She held that position until 1981 when she married Patrick Ross. Her next position was Administrative Secretary at Grace Lutheran School, where she worked for eleven years until she retired in 1992.

Through all the years Dorothy has remained active in the music world. She is a forty-year member of the Escondido Oratorio Society, now known as the Escondido Chorale. She has been church soloist at Grace Lutheran for over fifty years and still sings at many weddings, funerals, social clubs, etc. and is now doing third generation weddings.

Dorothy says she has had a good life, God has blessed her with good health, a loving spouse and a wonderful family. Her children are: Marjorie Cartwright who lives in Escondido, Richard Brousil of Twin Oaks Valley, Debi Strom of Murietta and Julie Brousil. She has ten grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

MEMORIES: Dorothy has very fond memories of Twin Oaks School. She remembers all the plays, potlucks and a lot of fun as a community. Even though there was no electricity in the school we still had a lot of evening activities.



SHRIVER

Marilyn Shriver

Marilyn attended Twin Oaks School for one year during 1942-43 while living in Twin Oaks with her Grandmother, Edith Cox. She went to Lincoln High School during her sophomore year and graduated from Escondido High School. She earned her B. A. Degree from San Diego State and her M. A. from U. S. International University.

After graduating from college, Marilyn taught two years at Palomar Mountain and for thirty-seven years taught Physical Education at Escondido High School.

Marilyn is an avid cross country cyclist and during the Bicentennial Year, 1976, cycled across the United States. She has cycled in Europe for three or four summers. At present she is taking a fine arts course at Palomar College.

MEMORIES: Marilyn fondly remembers the softball games, classical music, art classes, the fun at lunch, teaching the younger children and Billy Uhland "priming" the pump. She particularly remembers her teacher, Miss Calloway, and says "What a Gem"! Marilyn says "in retro-spec it seems like a lovely dream— not even the war could mar the wonder of the School and Valley".

Marilyn with Grandmother, Edith Cox.



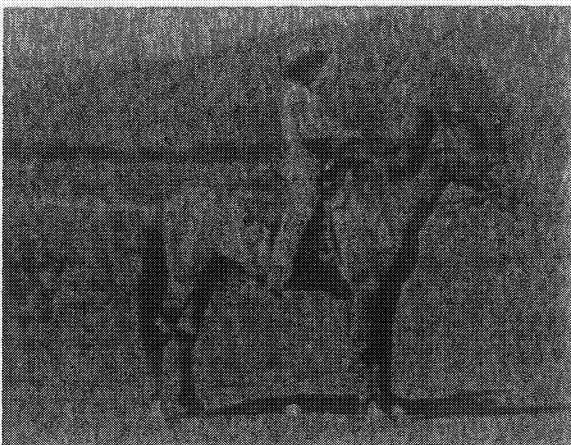


Dorothy Green Harrison
on left
Verna Green Radcliff
on right

Dorothy was born in Twin Oaks on January 15, 1921 and still lives in Twin Oaks Valley. She attended all eight grades at Twin Oaks and went to Escondido High School for three years, dropping out to marry Austin Harrison. Dorothy and Austin had fifty-three years together before he died a few days after his 75th birthday. They had two children—a girl and a boy and two grandsons, and two great grandsons.

Dorothy is a photographer and does beautiful work under the name "Creative Photography". She shares her beautiful still-life photos with the patients at the Alzheimer's Center and volunteers time to spread cheer there. Using her photography skills, she makes all her own Christmas cards and sends out about a hundred each year.

MEMORIES: Dorothy says being a small group she thinks the kids had more fun than such large groups of today. Remembering one play in particular, she was to be the Queen. The boys played a prank, as boys do, and put thumb tacks under the crepe paper throne she was sitting on. She supposed they thought she would jump and scream but she fooled them and just sat there all through the play and did her part, disappointing whoever put the tacks there. She recalls that there were several play days at different schools where they played ball and had races. She had never won a race or anything and felt so bad, but then there was a posture contest. Gale Steele and Dorothy took the posture contest for boy and girl for Twin Oaks. She has won several things since at County Fair and for photography but that little posture ribbon was her "big thrill" as a child. Dorothy was a tom boy and rode her horse to school sometimes and tethered her out on the school grounds during school hours. She remembers that the school grounds would be covered with yellow violets and the students all picked large bunches at recess and the noon hour. Mrs. Witt was her teacher from 4th grade through 8th grade and going home with her once in awhile to stay all night was a treat, as was the lunch she always made for her the next day. A special memory also is the wood stove at the school and the hot lunches the parents took turns fixing and the teacher would warm them up on the stove just before lunch.

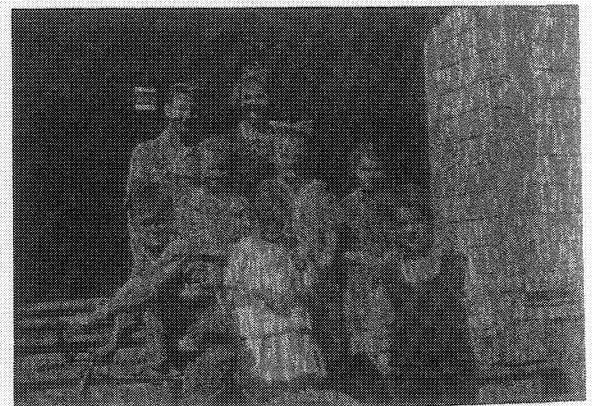


Verna was born in Twin Oaks Valley on August 31, 1908 and was the oldest classmate that attended the 1995 Reunion.

Verna attended Twin Oaks School and graduated from 8th Grade, although she spent some time away from Twin Oaks living in San Diego while her father worked in a garage. She doesn't remember the year. Her husband, Charles Radcliff, also went to Twin Oaks School for a short time. They were the same age but Verna had already graduated as Charles had worked for awhile before coming to Twin Oaks.

Verna and Charles' children—Lester, June and Lois all went to Twin Oaks School and they continued in school activities along with the other parents until they moved to Escondido, where Verna still lives. Charles has passed away. Their younger son, John did not go to Twin Oaks.

MEMORIES: Verna remembers a few things about Twin Oaks School, such as picking the small yellow violets that grew on the school grounds, the teeter-totter that went up and down and also around, playing baseball at recess and the lunch hour. She particularly remembers the time she was trying to learn to ride a bicycle and was pushed down a hill and fell off and knocked unconscious and her father had to come to school to get her. She also remembers copying pictures of flowers and drawing them onto the blackboard in colored chalk. She can still remember a few of the children that attended school with her. Among them, Sheldo Merriam, a boy and girl from the Jinks family, a boy and a girl from the Baker family, two girls from the Ormsby family and Jimmi Whitmore.



Verna (with bow on her head) and schoolmates
At left: Dorothy riding Daisy

RADCLIFF



Lester Radcliff
and Louise



June Radcliff

Lester attended Twin Oaks School for the first through fifth grades before moving to Escondido where he attended Central Elementary School and on to Escondido High School, where he graduated in 1946.

Lester went to work after graduating from high school. He spent twelve years working for the Escondido Lemon Association. The next thirteen years he worked for Whited Cemetary Service and for Escondido High School for thirteen years. He was forced to retire in 1982 for hip replacement and has been retired since then.

Lester and Louise Weaver were married in 1950 and bought the old Oakvalle School House on Harmony Grove Road for \$1,650. It was built in 1894 and prior to their buying it the Palomar Riders used it for their clubhouse and dances. Lester and Louise built their home on the same spot and still live there. They have two children—Colleen who lives in Victorville and Lauren lives in Escondido. They are proud grandparents to four granddaughters and one grandson.

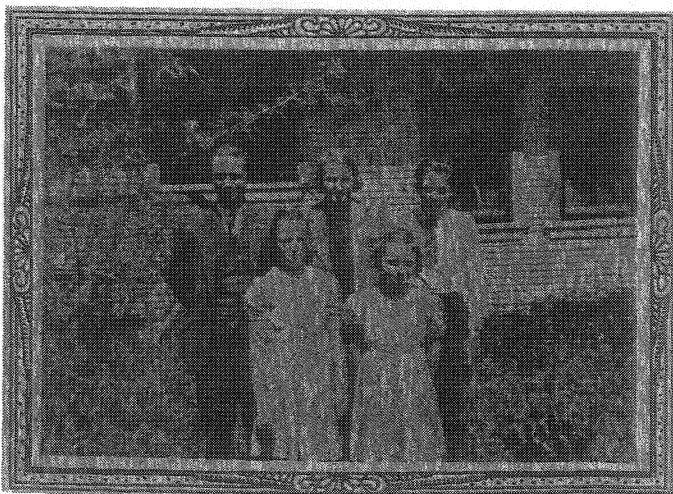
MEMORIES: Lester's most vivid memories are of the outings which he says were wonderful. He particularly remembers a visit to the San Diego Newspaper Office, Old Ironside (the first iron clad ship which now is in Boston) and the tuna boats in San Diego Harbor.

A second generation Twin Oaks student, June's parents Charles and Verna Radcliff both attended Twin Oaks School. June attended Twin Oaks from 1936 to 1938 and was in third grade when they moved to Escondido where she finished elementary school and graduated from Escondido High School. She attended Biola Bible College in Los Angeles and earned her B. A. Degree in Christian Education.

After graduating she stayed on and worked at Biola for a year before going to New Mexico to work at a Navajo Boarding School for six months. While there she applied to and was accepted at the Lazy Mountain Children's Home in Palmer, Alaska. Her service there covered the years of 1956-1963. She moved up the highway to work at Victory High School, operated by Arctic Missions, Inc. Her job there was cooking for a student body of 35 to 50, depending on the year. In 1982 the school closed and the Mission trained her to work at their Bible Institute and field office. In 1989 she transferred to their home office in Boring, Oregon where she's been ever since. The Mission is now called InterAct Ministries. They have missionaries in Alaska, Canada, Siberia, and in the near future India. June says it is a pleasure serving others as they are working for the Lord all over.

MEMORIES: June says other than walking back and forth to school, most of her memories of Twin Oaks Valley came later in life.

Front: June and Lois
Back: Charles, Verna and Lester



Verna and the children who attended Twin Oaks taken on Verna's 87th birthday. Left to right: June, Lester, Verna and Lois.



REED



Ruby Reed
Burt

Ruby attended 7th and 8th grades at Twin Oaks and graduated from Escondido High School in 1943.

Ruby married Luther "Luke" Burt on January 18, 1948 and became a homemaker. They adopted a son in March, 1954 and a daughter in February, 1958. They lived in Escondido for awhile, moved to El Monte, then to Lancaster, then to Van Nuys and Reseda, California. In 1979 Luke retired and they moved to Shickshimny, Pennsylvania where they did honey bottling and putting it in markets. In January of 1985 they purchased a little ice cream parlor. Luke passed away in November of 1985 and Ruby was on her own, with her daughter, Jan, helping. The building was sold and they moved the business to another building for three years, until that building sold.

Ruby is now retired and lives in a one-bedroom apartment in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania. Her son, Jim Burt, lives in Exeter, PA and daughter, Jan Burt, lives in Bloomsburg, PA. She has three grandsons ages 21, 5 and 4.

MEMORIES: Ruby fondly remembers the game days and putting the flag up every morning, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Her most precious memory is the friends that she has kept in touch with through the years.



Dorothy Reed
Titus and
Jack

Dorothy Mary attended Twin Oaks School for about four years and finished elementary school in Escondido. She attended Escondido High School for two years before her family moved to San Bernardino, where she finished high school.

She married Gerald Stuckey in 1947, a marriage that lasted for twenty-five years and ended in divorce in 1971. They had three children— Richard Allan born in 1949, Sharon Lee in 1952 and Don Eugene in 1959 and now there are six grandchildren and one great grandson.

Dorothy Mary met Jack Titus in 1994 and they were joined in marriage on February 2, 1995. She says they are wonderfully happy and live in Palm Desert in the winter and Crestline in the summer.

MEMORIES: Dorothy's most vivid memory is the day she was struck by a rattlesnake on the school grounds and her brother, Arthur, helped the teacher take her to the doctor. (This was a near tragedy that everyone in school that day will never forget.) She also remembers how nice it was back then to be able to walk to school in the country and not be afraid.



ARTHUR E. REED
1924 - 1945

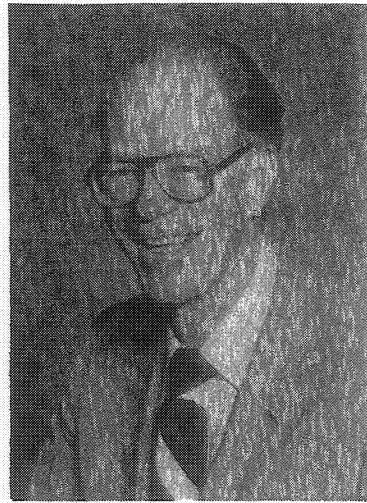
Arthur attended Twin Oaks School for 7th and 8th grades, graduating in 1939. He entered Escondido High School but was drafted into the U. S. Army in January, 1943 before graduating in June. His plane went down over Germany in May, 1945.

SMITH



Marilyn Smith
Duca and Berl

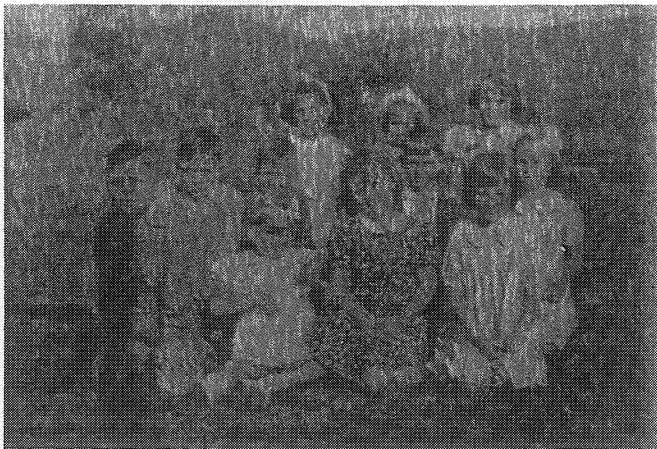
Harker Smith



Marilyn attended Twin Oaks School from 1935 to 1939 and Escondido Elementary School. She graduated from Escondido High School and went to Palomar College where she earned her A. A. Degree. From there she went to the University of Southern California and earned her B. S. Degree in Education.

Marilyn is married to Berl Duca and her career has been a Homemaker. They have one daughter, Michele Duca Ness and two grandsons.

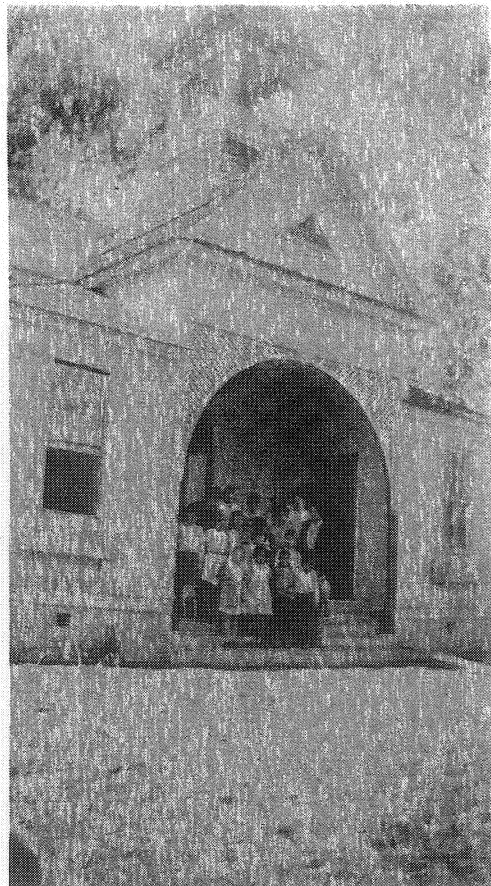
MEMORIES: Marilyn has special memories of the big umbrella tree in front of the school. She says the students did not use the big double front door but entered the ante room to the right and hung up their coats or sweaters and put their lunches away. Other memories are of the wood burning stove, the dark stained shutters (that are now back in style) and the kerosene lamps. She enjoyed the programs and potluck dinners with the parents at the school in the evenings and the games we played. She feels the advantages of a one-room school are that the young children learn what the older children are being taught, and once in awhile the young ones were asked to come and sit with the "big kids". She has a fond memory of riding in a big truck to Live Oak Park in Fallbrook.



Harker attended Twin Oaks School from 1934 to 1936. After graduating from Escondido High School he attended Oceanside Junior College and University of Southern California, where he earned his B. S. Degree in Business Administration.

Harker served a stint in the U. S. Navy during World War II from 1944 to 1946. He has been a radio announcer in Michigan and Tennessee and an Examiner/Analyst for several years doing top secret government work. He was at Christmas Island in 1962 and the Marshal Islands in 1963. He is a rancher in Twin Oaks Valley on the ranch where he grew up.

MEMORIES: Harker's memories are all good of the teachers, students and the community.





Paula Trivett Tvedt and Rolf

Paula attended Twin Oaks School from 1933 through 1941 and graduated from Escondido High School. She then attended San Diego State College where she earned her B. A. in Education and California State University, Los Angeles, for her O. H. Credential (Orthopedically handicapped).

After graduating from college she taught first grade at Kit Carson School in Linda Vista, a suburb of San Diego, where she met a handsome young Naval Officer named Rolf Tvedt. Upon his release from active duty they married and moved to the San Fernando Valley. In 1960 they bought a house in Tarzana where they still reside. For eight years Paula taught first and second grade for the Los Angeles Unified School District, while Rolf worked as an Appraiser for the Los Angeles County Tax Assessor's Office. In November 1964 her father was struck by a car, resulting in his premature death. About a year and a half later her mother became ill. Paula then took a Family Illness Leave from the school district and spent two years traveling between Tarzana and her mother's home in Poway, helping her sell the Poway property and move to a beach house her mother and father had previously purchased. She changed her leave status to that of a substitute teacher and was immediately sent to one of the district's special education schools. There she was offered a permanent position, thus beginning twenty-three happy years as a Special Ed Teacher. She retired in 1993 after teaching a total of thirty-eight years. Rolf retired in June 1995 after working twenty-nine years as a Senior Real Estate Agent for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

Now with retirement comes the big decision to relocate or stay where they are. Whatever the decision, Paula and Rolf are looking forward to many happy retirement years that include lots of travel, some volunteerism, and more time to spend with sisters and family.

Although they have no children of their own they have a close parent-child relationship with their God-daughter, Tanya Swerdloff, who is a senior at U. C. S. D. in La Jolla.

MEMORIES: Paula says the big, black wood-heating stove, the old wooden desks with inkwell, the imposing chalk board at the front of the room with bookcases on each side are vivid memories of Twin Oaks School. Those two bookcases were a very important part of her school experience. The one on the right contained books for the lower grades. The one on the left contained books for the upper grades. The upper grade bookcase was a motivating force for her. In the Third Grade she remembers reading every book in the lower grade case so that she could have an excuse to read some of the upper grade books. The many certificates that were rewarded at the end of school ceremonies were also motivating forces, especially the reading certificates. She read voraciously to get one yearly.

TRIVETT

Paula also remembers the County Supervisors of Education who came periodically to check on certain areas of the curriculum. There was Miss Duffy, whose specialty was Language Arts. She remembers handwriting lessons and poetry writing sessions with her. Then there was Miss Van Vorhees, a large tweedy woman with a penchant for math bees. She was a tyrant about math, and the very sight of her struck terror to Paula's heart. She also supervised P. E. The California Stanford Achievement Tests were another source of terror for Paula. She was convinced that she would flunk her current grade if she didn't pass these tests, never realizing their true purpose.

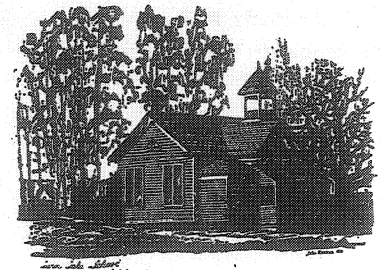
On a happier note, Paula remembers the school orchestra, the dance teacher who taught weekly classes after school for a few years, and the Folk Dance Festivals held with other schools. She especially remembers the year we danced the Minuet in costumes her mother made from old formals and lace curtains, the Italian Tarantella we danced in appropriate costumes and straw hats decorated with real wisteria blossoms, and a Dutch dance with little white caps and aprons. The school Christmas pageants were always magical and inspiring with the Nativity Scene including Mary, Joseph, a baby doll in a manger, the three kings in their finery, the shepherds in their flannel bathrobes, and the chorus in their big white collars with red bows, carrying lighted candles. As a child, she thought it was glorious! Can you imagine a Christmas pageant in a public school today? The end of school pageants were also special. They were usually about early California history with lots of little indians dancing around in gunny sacks. She also remembers many fun field trips. A trip to San Diego to see President Roosevelt was the most memorable of all!

Paula attended Twin Oaks School for eight years and had only three teachers, Mrs. Witt, Mrs. Griswold, and Miss Petty. She often thinks of those teachers with much appreciation, empathy, and understanding. Their job now seems an utterly impossible task. Yet somehow we all learned and progressed. As Paula remembers, in all those years the school enrollment was never more than twenty six children or less than sixteen. There were never many children in her grade. Over the years, she remembers sharing a grade with Patty, Shirley, Lester, and Cameron at various times. Often being the only girl in her class. She's always been grateful to the girls in the classes ahead of her for including her in their activities, especially Dorothy, Edith, Lenna, Ruby, and Ruth.

When her family first moved to the valley there was a little theatre group that presented plays and musicals at the school. She remembers her mother being in some of the productions. She especially remembers a Gay 90's musical review in which her mother and Harry Uhland participated.

Paula says the little Sunday School was a very important part of our lives, and when we were old enough, we eagerly anticipated going to summer church camp with our friends.

She also remembers the fun of hiking in the hills around the valley and discovering a hidden meadow covered with spring wildflowers, and wading in the spring streams with her sisters and friends. At that time, the valley seemed so beautifully green with all the orange groves. She presently has several orange trees in her front yard, and every spring when the air is heavy with the sweet fragrance of their blossoms, she says it takes her back to Twin Oaks Valley and her childhood.



TRIVETT



LaNeil Trivett
Stangby and
Jim

Nina Trivett Lewsader



LaNeil attended Twin Oaks School from 1935 to 1943. After high school graduation from the Academy of the Little Flower at San Luis Rey, she completed a university extension course in San Diego to become a Medical Assistant.

LaNeil worked as a medical assistant to Dr. J. W. Thomas in Point Loma for ten years before moving to Las Vegas to enjoy a dryer climate. In Las Vegas she worked in sales for an upper scale sportswear shop, becoming assistant manager and eventually manager. After her marriage she worked in that position until the birth of her daughter, Suzanne. For several years she enjoyed being a full-time housewife and mother, active in church and school activities. She then went into convention work from which she is now retired.

LaNeil's husband, Jim, is also retired and an ardent golfer. In 1994 they sold their larger home and bought a retirement home in Del Webb's Sun City, a suburb of Las Vegas. Jim is a ranger for the Sun City Golf course. Their daughter and her family live nearby and they enjoy frequent visits from her and their two grandchildren. With her sister, Nina, she also keeps busy with their little real estate-related business. She and Jim are looking forward to full-time retirement soon so they will have more time for travel and leisure activities.

MEMORIES: The school, the classmates and the teachers are all part of LaNeil's memories of her childhood. She especially related to Miss Petty and remembers her fondly. She says she will always remember the holiday programs and parties—especially the May Day with the Maypole and May baskets. She says Halloween was great fun with all the party activities, such as bobbing for apples and pulling taffy. The hours spent at recess and noon jumping rope, playing hopscotch and jacks, are all etched in LaNeil's memory. Special memories are the box socials that were held as fund-raisers for the school and recalls that her sister, Nina, sometimes went hungry on those evenings as she would never eat food that wasn't prepared by their mother, not even restaurant food. She soon gave up that quirk when she started cooking for herself!!! LaNeil also remembers the school mate who always ate desert first, then the rest of the meals and says "It's strange some of the things we remember!" Peter Williams, the old hermit, is still vivid in LaNeil's memory. When she and the others saw his big sandaled foot prints in the dirt they were all frightened, but when they saw him with his long robes and flowing white hair and beard, she says THEY WERE TERRIFIED!! However, she says they soon learned there was nothing to fear from that kindly old fellow. He used to collect Eucalyptus leaves and once when he heard LaNeil coughing and wheezing, he told her to burn the leaves and inhale the smoke for her asthma. LaNeil's favorite memory is of the beauty of the Valley, as it was then with all the big trees, especially the lovely old Sycamore trees.

Nina attended Twin Oaks School from 1937 to the closing of the school and completed 7th grade at Vista and graduated from 8th grade at San Marcos. She graduated from high school at the Academy of the Little Flower at San Luis Rey.

After graduation from high school, Nina married a young Navy man in October, 1949 and spent the next twenty-five years learning all the lessons to be learned from the responsibility of raising a child on her own for months on end while her husband was at sea, to being a gracious hostess for her husband when he had shore duty and packing and moving from one duty station to the next. They traveled from the West coast to the East coast and back before going to their final duty station in Hawaii. After their daughter's graduation from high school and her husband's Navy retirement in Hawaii, they bought a home in La Cresta, California (in San Diego County). She says they made a good adjustment to civilian life while Joseph worked as Operations Manager of the San Diego Sports Arena and she worked in sales for the next several years. When this phase of her life abruptly came to a close, she moved to San Diego to be near her mother.

After the death of her mother, she married a building contractor and moved to Texas, where they planned, designed and developed two large resorts, a country club and several subdivisions. Nina had the pleasure of decorating all the projects and says the buying trips to Dallas were great fun.

In 1989, Nina began another phase of her life in Las Vegas, where she and her sister, LaNeil, started a little business relating to model homes. For several years of her life she enjoyed working as a volunteer with the physically and mentally handicapped in nursery schools and hospitals and looks forward to retirement when she can return to volunteer work.

Nina's daughter, Sandra Combs and husband, Terry, live in Donna, Texas. Nina has one grandson, one granddaughter and two great grandsons.

MEMORIES: Nina's favorite memory of Twin Oaks School is making May Baskets and delivering them to Mrs. Green, as she was always so appreciative. Nina says she was always rather competitive and really enjoyed the yearly school "Play Days" where the students competed with many other County schools. She fondly remembers going to play at the homes of her friends—Carolyn, Betty, Lois and Dorothy Mary and playing with her neighborhood friend, Jimmy, and the beautiful Dawson family and says "what good neighbors we had in Twin Oaks. The Valley was a wonderful place to grow up and only in the country could I have had and kept my menagerie of animal friends".



Written for 1995 Reunion
Tune: I Left My Heart in San Francisco

I Left My Heart in Twin Oaks Valley

by

Edith Bagwell Hughes

Sung by Ralph Hughes

I left my heart in Twin Oaks Valley,
And all the friends I hold so dear.
To be where school bells filled the air.
And friends for whom I care,
Those memories still I hold so dear, you bet I do.
Our Twin Oaks School, here in the Valley,
Makes this the place I've longed to be.
When I come home to you, Twin Oaks Valley,
My heart will know I'm home again.

